



2020

Annual Report

Dunn County
Health Department

3001 US Hwy 12 E, Suite 032
Menomonie, WI 54751





The Mission of the Dunn County Health Department is to promote the health of all people in the community by collaborating with community partners, working toward a safe and healthy environment, preventing disease and disability and promoting positive health practices.

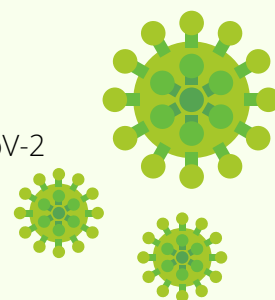
Department History

The Dunn County report of the Committee on Charities, November 12, 1935, organized a County Health Department. The first meeting was held December 6, 1935 and officers were organized; the second meeting was December 24, 1935 and applications were reviewed for the position of County Nurse. The primary work of the nurse included: an infant and maternal health program, prevention and control of communicable diseases, building up the health of school children, tuberculosis control and crippled children's follow up program.

For the past 80 years, the work continues, benefited by advances in science and knowledge about disease process, antibiotics and anti-viral medications now available for treatment and new challenges in the areas of chronic disease, emerging infections related to climate change and challenges in protecting environmental health. Our socio-economic climate and health care system also require that Public Health examine ways to promote health equity. In other words, equal opportunities to be healthy.

Dunn County Health Department COVID-19 Response

In March of 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared SARS-coV-2 (COVID-19) a pandemic. The Dunn County Health Department quickly shifted its gears in order to mitigate the negative effects of COVID-19 within our community.



Many of the other popular programs, such as WIC, Well Inspections, and our Reproductive Health Clinic, were put on hold or modified to create a safer environment for the staff and patients.

Keep this in mind as you go through our data from the past year.

2020 Dunn County COVID-19 Data

3,488

Total COVID Cases

101

Total Hospitalized

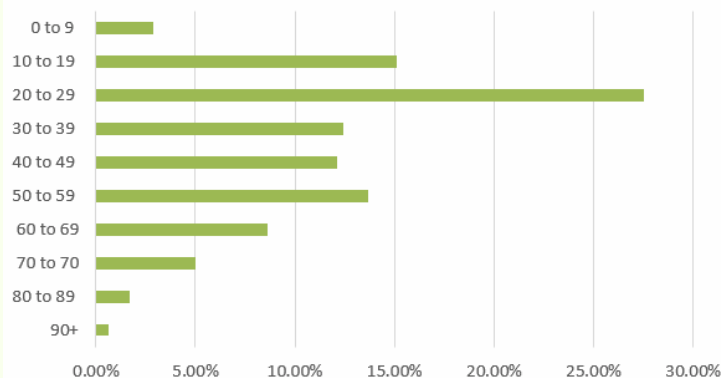
10,900

Total Hours of
Contact Tracing

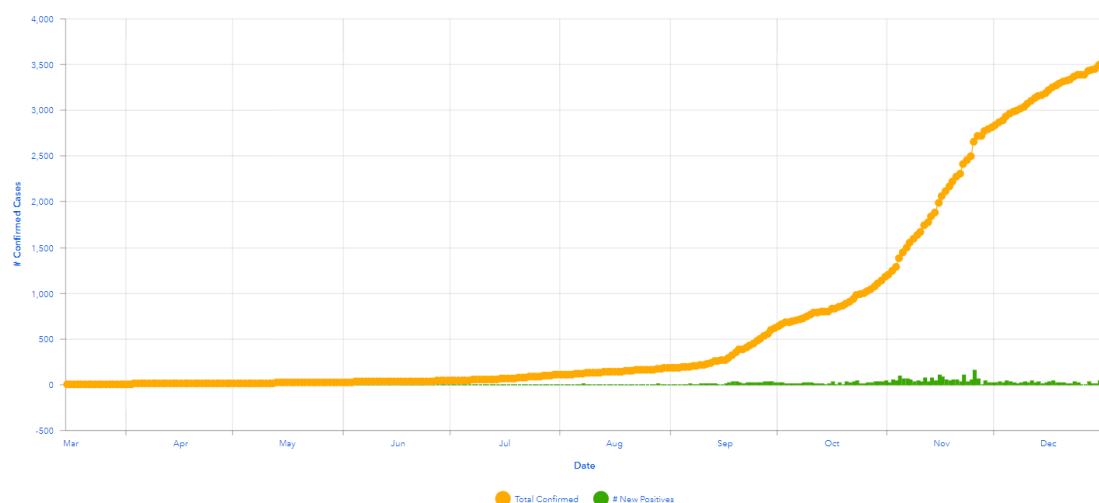
23

COVID Deaths

COVID-19 Case Age Demographics



Dunn County New and Total Confirmed Cases by Date



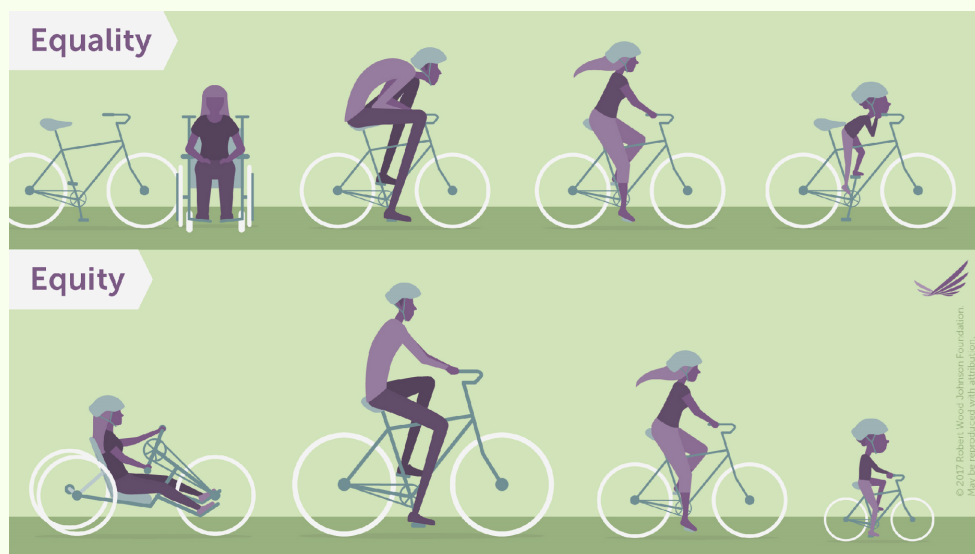
A screenshot of our
Dunn County
COVID-19 Dashboard
from 1/1/2020 to
12/31/2020

Source: WI Department of Health Services

2020

A BASIC PRINCIPLE

of public health is that all people have a right to health. Equity, then, as understood in public health literature and practice, is when everyone has the opportunity to “attain their full health potential” and no one is “disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of their social position or other socially determined circumstance.”



Brennan Ramirez LK, Baker EA, Metzler M. Promoting Health Equity: A Resource to Help Communities Address Social Determinants of Health. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health

Health Equity & Health Equality

Health equity is the goal of achieving the highest level of health for all people regardless of differences in social, economic or environmental conditions. Health related quality of life is also the focus of the Wisconsin 2020 Health Plan. It describes the essential elements of working toward optimal public health as effective policies and health systems; healthy, safe and resilient communities, families and individuals; reduced disease, injury and disability all leading toward the goals of improved health across the lifespan and health equity.



Health Dunn Right, Dunn County's community health coalition, is continually working to improve the health of our county. Our 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment allowed us to compile community identified needs; with this data there have been five action teams put together, Alcohol Nicotine & Drug, Housing, Chronic Disease Prevention, Healthy Environment, and Mental Health & Wellness. These teams are made up of community members, content experts, and key organizations to meet our Community Health Improvement Plan goals.

CHNA Report: <https://healthdunnright.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CHNAR-2020-Digital-Distribution.pdf>

Dunn County Demographics

Population- est. 44,759 (44,704)

At this time the 2020 Census data has not been released due to the ongoing 2020 Census. Our population data is based off of 2019.

Income & Poverty	Dunn County, Wisconsin
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2019, (V2019)	3.4%
PEOPLE	
Income & Poverty	
Median household income (in 2019 dollars), 2015-2019	\$58,783
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2019 dollars), 2015-2019	\$28,034
Persons in poverty, percent	11.7%

Health Department is Funded by

Local tax levy

· \$462,993 (\$606,014) 2019

Program generated revenue

· \$418,107 (\$303,173) 2019

Grants, including state aids

· \$ 754,201 (\$350,850) 2019

Cost per Dunn County Resident

Local Taxes

· \$10.34 (\$13.55) 2019

Total Funding

· \$36.54 (\$28.19) 2019

Please note that 2020 data is listed first, with 2019 equivalent data listed in parenthesis.

2020 Board of Health Elected Board Members:

Gary Stene, Chair

Mary Solberg, Vice

Larry Bjork

Sarah Kennedy

Appointed Board Members:

Sarah Schaefer, RN

Bonnie Barker

Bill Lamb

BOH Medical Advisor-

Dr. Jennifer Strong

2020 Health Department Staff

Health Officer

KT Gallagher, MPA, Director

Public Health Nursing

Deb Benoit, ADN, RN

Sheila Haugle, BSN, RN

Sara Hegeman, BSN, RN

Jeanie Miller, BSN, RN

Kari Quilling, BSN, RN

Environmental Health

Thomas Aarrestad, MA, EH Tech

Keith Bergeson, BS, EHS, RS

Public Health Nutrition Staff

Ellen Blumer, RD

Holly Cseter, BS, Dietetic Tech

Public Health Administration Staff

Donna Kraemer, Sec II

LeeAnn Wold, Fiscal Clerk I

Zoua Yang, BA, Public Health Tech

Kaitlin Ingle, BS, Public Health Educator

Dunn County Health Department program areas are highlighted below. Please note that 2020 program outputs are listed first, with 2019 equivalent outputs listed in parenthesis.

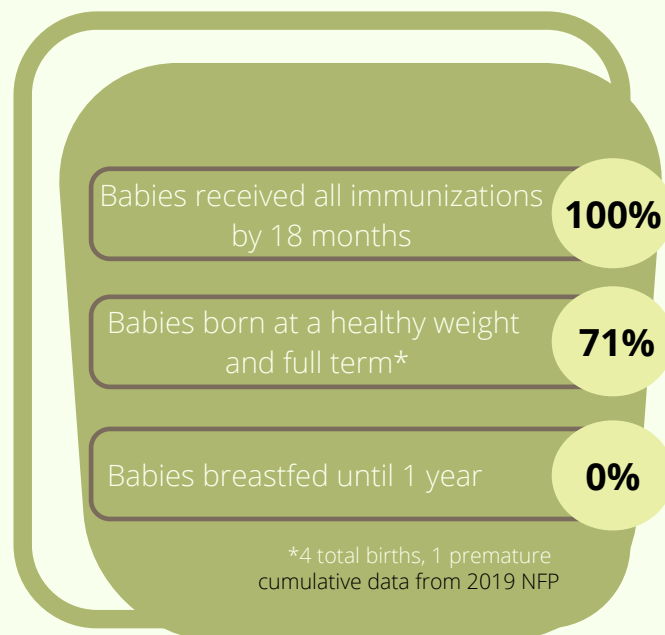
Maternal and Child Health

Prenatal Care Coordination, Nurse Family Partnership, WIC, Reproductive Health, and Public Health program areas, including early identification of pregnancy, individual support services, prenatal care, health and nutrition education and referrals to community .

PNCC and NFP clients

2 (34) and **7** (345) visits

Oral health care In 2019 the Fluoride Swish for Schools program was completed and in 2020 our remaining 200 products were given to one school. We gave out around 300 toothbrushes included and our Prenatal/postpartum outreach for dental has been around 240 individuals.



The WIC program

(Women, Infants and Children) provides nutrition education and breastfeeding support for Dunn County families, as well as supplemental food, to families at or below 185% poverty level. The WIC program was established in 1974 and has earned the reputation of being one of the most successful federally-funded nutrition programs in the U.S. Due to Covid-19 the WIC program prioritized participant safety and provided remote services. In line with federal program safety protocols, WIC visits were conducted via telephone and online education sessions were provided. We observed a reduction in missed appointments in 2020. We believe that it is likely related to removal of transportation and childcare barriers for WIC participants.



Number of individuals served/mo	535 (536)
Food dollars redeemed	\$348,067.06 (\$347,849)
Breastfeeding Initiation rate	79% (75.8%)
Farmer's Market \$ redeemed	\$2,856 (\$3,805)

Public Health Multipurpose Clinics

Public Health Nurses conduct TB skin tests, immunizations, blood pressure checks, hearing re-checks, health education and referrals. They are available onsite for drop in consults and appointments during working hours at the health department. They also have scheduled clinics quarterly at a satellite location in Colfax.

Follow-up referrals **41** (53)

Environmental and Occupational Health

Inspections and Licensing

Campgrounds 6 (6)
B & B's 2 (5)
Tourist Rooming Houses 12 (5)
Tattoo/Body Art 4 (5)
Camps 3 (3)
Hotels & Motels 10 (10)
Food & Bev 124 (143)
Retail 75 (70)
Swimming Pools 8 (11)
Hot Tubs 3 (4)
Schools 15 (15)
Temporary Food & Lodging 7 (28)
Complaints-EH responded to 64 (92)
 citizen complaints includes Food Service
 and Human Health Hazards.

Rabies Control Program

Animal bite follow up and education.

Dog Bites 30 (28)

Cat bites 4 (13)

Other 4 (8)

Radon Information Center

Dunn County coordinates the program testing information and supplies for Dunn, St. Croix, Pierce, Barron and Sawyer Counties. Any elevated test results require follow-up by the Environmental Health Specialist in the county of the test.

Tests completed by homeowners 138 (216)

Elevated tests 58 (101)

Dunn County radon tests 25 (48)

Dunn County tests: elevated 12 (18)

Well Water and Surface Water Protection

We continue to partner with citizen groups, DNR and the zoning office to protect the groundwater and surface water. The health department offers information about private well water testing as well as test kits. Our website includes test result data for nitrates in Dunn County.

Private well tests 29 (31)

DNR contract for well sampling 91 (96)

Dunn County facilities 67 (77) (churches, rural restaurants that serve to the public)

Return visits 10 (11)

Inspections 13 (15)

Pepin County facilities, 17 (19)

samples (2 temp closed), Well Inspections 4 (5), **Return visits 0** (16)

Well Delegation 2020 Permits-146 (103)

Revenue: \$10,950 (\$7725)

Lead Poisoning Prevention and Investigation

We have one PHN and one EHS that maintain certification in lead investigation. Participating families receive lead poisoning prevention screening, tests, and if any levels are elevated, a visit by the EHS and PHN to determine risks and remediation.

Number of children tested for lead

Total- 236 (288)

Dunn Co HD - 17 (67)

Number of Lead Investigations 5 (3)

The Environmental Health Specialist also provides community education for future food service managers, home builders, realtors and other individuals/groups.

Reproductive and Sexual Health

Reproductive Health Program-Two part-time RNs and one-part time support staff person provided health screening, information, referral and treatment for Dunn County women of childbearing age, men seeking prevention/treatment services and help with medical assistance enrollment. Most of these services were performed via telehealth phone conversations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders. Supplies were mailed to all that were able. The department was fortunate to be part of a state program for shared NP services to provide physical exam, Pap tests, and long acting reversible contraception placements/removals. The NP is shared between 5 Western Wisconsin counties and comes to Dunn County twice per month.

Women receiving Early Identification of Pregnancy (pregnancy testing) 28 (46)

Number of RSH unduplicated clients- Total 184 (292)

Total visits 759 (1198)

Community education-PH staff nurses work with schools, agencies and parents, teaching about sexuality issues, healthy relationships and resources. This continued virtually in 2020. HIV/STD testing, referral, treatment and education is available within this program. The HIV follow up has changed to a regional center with Eau Claire County providing the service. The Health Department collaborates with The Bridge, Law Enforcement (City and County), UW-Stout, Marshfield Clinic & Red Cedar-Mayo, WI ARC and WI Department of Public Health with our sexual health outreach and education for the prevention of risks and communicable disease.

Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention



Car Seat Safety program-we provide car seat safety checks for families and have grant funding to provide education and car seats on a sliding fee schedule .

Total number of seats provided & checked 18 (120)

Total number of bike helmets provided 0 (5)



Health Department staff maintain child safety seat certification and present to groups regarding child seat safety, provide Facebook and website safety information.

We collaborate with Dunn Co. Solid Waste, Lion's club, Community Health Foundation and RCMC for safe medication and sharps disposal.

WIC and public health nursing provide nutrition and diabetes prevention referrals, education and counseling. The CDC reports the prevalence of diagnosed diabetes for adults in Dunn County is 8.5% (2017 latest reported year).

We include Back to sleep and Shaken Baby information in our parent teaching for SIDS and Shaken Baby risk reduction.

We have purchased pack n play's and will distribute them to families in our PNCC program or otherwise at risk for unsafe sleep practices.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

WI Statute DHS 145 requires all reportable communicable diseases to be directed to the local public health agency for investigation, control and prevention of any spread among the population. The WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System-WEDSS connects with CDC reporting and we also rely on timely communication from providers.

Communicable Disease Statistics

These are the counts of communicable diseases that have been reported to the health department over a three-year period. We receive electronic reports from the WI State Lab of Hygiene, Marshfield Clinic, Mayo Health Systems, UW-Stout, area hospitals. Other reports are phoned in to the health department. We investigate all cases of reportable communicable disease to prevent/control disease spread and protect the public's health. We continue to provide tuberculosis (TB) testing and follow up. **TB skin testing 188** (620)

Vaccinations for Children program

28% (64%) of Dunn County children under the age of 2 years were up to date with immunizations. We work with schools and the medical community to encourage vaccinations. Our immunization clinic visits have decreased with ACA coverage of shots. Our school summary report indicates there are still a significant number of students whose parents choose not to immunize; the majority of waivers are for "personal" reasons. Immunization status is verified through the Wisconsin Immunization Registry for all clients receiving services at the Department.

Influenza Vaccine

In **2020** Dunn County had a total of **24** (221) **cases** of influenza associated hospitalizations. This is in line with national trends showing a significant decrease in influenza cases following implementation of COVID-19 mitigation strategies. We continue to encourage the population to be immunized against Vaccine Preventable Diseases.

Adult Influenza vaccinations 156 (241)

Children's Influenza vaccinations 48 (20)

Infection	2018	2019	2020
Babesiosis	11	16	11
Blastomycosis	0	0	0
Campylobacter	30	32	24
Chlamydia	174	158	153
Cryptosporidium	10	16	11
STEC	17	13	7
Giardiasis	8	10	6
Gonorrhea	34	26	30
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	6	25	9
Histoplasmosis	7	0	0
HIV	0	0	0
Influenza-hospital	291	221	24
Legionellosis	3	10	2
LTBI	21	11	8
Meningitis-V/B	0	0	0
Pertussis	33	57	34
Salmonella	14	9	9
Shigellosis	9	4	1
Invasive Strep (A)	3	7	10
Tuberculosis	1	1	0
Toxoplasmosis	2	0	2
Varicella	7	6	5

Students & Workforce Development

Dunn County Health Department continues to serve as a clinical site for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Green Bay Schools of Nursing. We provide a clinical practice area for senior nursing students in the baccalaureate programs. The WIC program provides field experiences for Nutrition students and serves as a preceptor site for the Master's degree prepared Dietetic Intern program at UW-Stout.

Unhealthy Alcohol and Drug Use

The health department participates as a member of the Dunn County Partnership for Youth and Partners for Resilience and the Mental Health Resource Network-coalitions addressing prevention efforts and healthy families. Immunizations for Hepatitis and TB and/or HIV screenings are also available to high risk adults. Individuals involved in AODA use are at higher risk for these diseases.

We continue our partnership with Vivient Health (previously known as the Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin) to provide free condoms in Dunn County locations. We have provided over **1,560** (5,106) free condoms to **1** (1) bars and **2** (2) agencies. We serve as an extension of the ARCW needle exchange site for communicable disease risk reduction. This is one evidence based harm reduction strategy with strong support. It is part of a multifaceted response to the known use of heroin/opiates in the County.

Tobacco Use and Exposure

First Breath is a statewide program that helps pregnant women, new moms and their families quit smoking.

Partners in programming include: Wisconsin DPH, American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, School Districts, Mayo-Menomonie, Marshfield Clinic and Arbor Place.

Christmas 2020



This Annual Report is compiled and will be submitted to the WI Department of Health to satisfy the statutory requirement: DHS 140.06 (2) (c) "a narrative which describes the progress and performance toward achieving the objectives identified as part of the community health assessment."

Respectfully submitted:
KT Gallagher, MPA
 2020 Director/Health Officer